



Sustainability Commission

– Net Zero 2050 Planning Subcommittee –

Net Zero 2050 Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024

Meeting Time: 12:00 PM

Meeting Location: via ZOOM (recorded)

Attendees: Charlotte Weigel, Phil Francisco, Ken Horton

Minutes:

Started – 12:00pm

- Agenda Item 1: Review minutes from previous meetings
 - Did not do.
- Agenda Item 2: Review June 10th Select Board meeting outcomes
 - Ken and Charlotte to initiate Climate Action Working Group per Town Manager's instructions
- Agenda Item 3: Discuss next steps for Zero Emissions Vehicle First Policy
 - Group reviewed the Policy: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/climate-leader-communities-zev-first-policy/download>
 - Summary:

Zero Emissions Vehicles - 1st policy

- When a vehicle is identified for replacement, acquisitions of ZEVs must be prioritized
- Acquisitions must adhere to the following vehicle efficiency hierarchy:
 - Priority 1: Battery Electric Vehicles (and Fuel Cell EVs)
 - Priority 2: Plug-in Hybrid EVs
 - Priority 3: Hybrid EVs
 - Priority 4: Most fuel-efficient internal combustion or vehicles that run on alternative fuels in accordance with requirements of the Green Communities Fuel Efficient Policy
- Has to include adoption from general government and school district
- Must maintain inventory of all vehicles and replacement plan for non-exempt vehicles
- Ensure sufficient charging infrastructure

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/climate-leader-communities-zev-first-policy/download>

1/29/2024

SUSTAINABLE GROTON

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- Group discussed potential next Steps:
 - Set up meetings with: Mark Haddad, DPW (Tom Delaney), School District (John Robichaud, Sherry Kersey, and maybe Melissa Fernandes Ribiero), GFD (Art Cheeks), GPD (Chief Luth), anyone missing?
 - Send ZEV policy document ahead of time: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/climate-leader-communities-zev-first-policy/download>
- Other information that we need for stakeholder discussions:
 - Grants for municipal Evs and charging infrastructure (Fed and state grants exist)
 - Examples of municipal Evs relevant to particular stakeholder group
 - Ex. Concord PD has Tesla police car, I am sure there are others

- Lawrence Academy has F150 Lightning facilities vehicle
 - Questions discussed:
 - Is there an ideal order to meeting with people?
 - Does GELD have to be involved in this? Waiting to hear back from Kelly Brown on this...
 - Would town/GDRSD prefer to maintain inventory in MEI or external to MEI?
 - Can we assist with assembling the inventory, and/or annual tracking?
 - Vehicle recycling requirement: will this be a problem?
 - Subcommittee plan is to reach out to Mark Haddad first to see what municipal employees we should meet with to discuss the Policy. Charlotte to coordinate meeting with Mark, and send policy and summary slide ahead of time.
- Agenda Item 4: Discuss next steps for Specialized Stretch Code
 - Group reviewed a summary of the Specialized Stretch Code:
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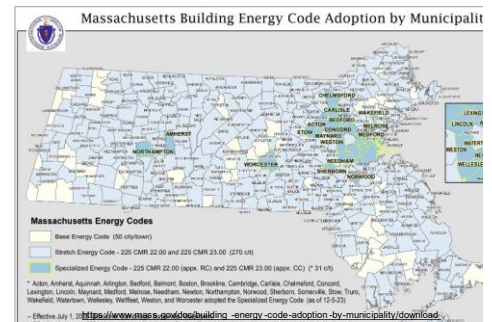
Specialized Energy Code adoption

Stretch energy code changes implemented in 2023 and 2024 – **these automatically apply to Groton**

- Increases energy efficiency in new low-rise residential, includes additions >1000ft²
- All electric homes or on-site solar PV allows less stringent efficiency requirements

Specialized energy code

- Intended to make new construction Net Zero 2050 -ready
- Allows choice between all-electric or mixed-fuel with wiring for electrification, and energy use offsets with on-site solar PV
- Efficiency standards match stretch code or are passive house
- Applies to residential and commercial
- Requires town vote, with implementation 6-12 months after



[State_Summary_of_2023_Stretch_Code_Changes.pdf \(grotonma.gov\)](#)

- Note that the final increase in energy efficiency stringency of the Stretch Code will be enforced starting July 1 2024.
- Subcommittee plan is to reach out to local builders who use greener building practices to get feedback on the Specialized Stretch Code first.

- Agenda Item 5: Any other business

Meeting adjourned – 1:00pm

Next Net Zero 2050 Planning Subcommittee meeting: TBD

Respectfully submitted,

- **Charlotte Weigel** Sustainability Commission Member

Minutes approved by Net Zero 2050 Planning/Climate Action Planning Working Group, Jan 24, 2025.